

In the Claims

Below is a list of current claims with status identifiers.

1. (Currently Amended): A method for interconnecting a user's location to a select one of a plurality of destination locations on a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving unique information at the user's location before being connected to the network, which unique information has no associated routing information embedded therein;

in response to the step of receiving:

assembling a message packet containing the unique information;

transmitting the message packet to an intermediate location on the network;

receiving from the intermediate location on the network instructional code that includes routing information that instructs the user location to connect to one of the plurality of destination locations on the network that has defined association with the unique information defined in a database at the intermediate location on the network;
and

~~returning network routing information, associated with the received unique information, from a database to the user's location in response to receipt of the unique information; and~~

interconnecting, in response to the step of ~~returning~~ receiving from the intermediate location on the network instructional code and without any user intervention at the user location, the user's location to the one of the plurality of destination locations across the network in accordance with the network routing information and in accordance with the received instructional code such that connection to the one of the plurality of destination locations is controlled by the intermediate location.

2. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the network comprises a global communication network.

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3. (Original): The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of receiving the unique information comprises receiving machine readable code having unique information embedded therein.

4. (Original): The method of Claim 3, wherein the step of receiving the machine readable code comprises scanning the machine readable code, decoding the machine readable code and outputting the information encoded within the machine readable code.

5. (Original): The method of Claim 3, wherein the machine readable code comprises a product code, which product code is fixedly associated with an associated product.

6. (Original): The method of Claim 5, wherein the product code comprises a barcode.

7. (Original): The method of Claim 5, wherein the product code comprises an ISBN number associated with printed materials.

8. (Original): The method of Claim 5, wherein the product code comprises an EAN barcode.

9. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 1, and further comprising the step of receiving from the one of the plurality of destinations location at the user location display information generated by the one of the plurality of destination locations which is displayed to the user at the user location.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of receiving from the intermediate location on the network instructional code ~~returning~~ comprises:

~~forwarding the unique information to an intermediate location on the network in response to the step of receiving the unique information;~~

5 comparing the received unique information at the intermediate location with a database of routing information, which database of routing information includes a plurality of associative relationships between predetermined unique information and locations of various ones of the plurality of destination locations on the network; and

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10 if an association between the received unique information and routing information on any
 of a plurality of destination locations on the network exists within the database, returning the associated
 routing information as part of the instructional code back to the user location for effecting a network
 connection to the one of the plurality of destination locations indicated by the routing information.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the steps of returning and
 interconnecting include the step of activating a web browser program which facilitates the interconnection
 over the network in response to receiving the instructional code including the unique information, which
 web browser program is operable to at least provide the interconnection of the user location to the
 5 destination location in accordance with the associated routing information under control of the
intermediate location.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled):

14. (Cancelled):

15. (Cancelled):

16. (Cancelled):

17. (Cancelled):

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled):

22. (Cancelled):

23. (Cancelled)